

75TH FOUNDATION DAY CELEBRATIONS OF THE ICCR

Smt. Meenakashi Lekhi, Union Minister of State for External Affairs and Culture, inaugurated the 75th Foundation Day celebrations of ICCR on April 9, 2024, at Bikaner House, New Delhi, in the esteemed presence of Shri Kumar Tuhin, Director General, ICCR.

This monumental occasion placed a strong emphasis on cultural heritage and global connectivity. The main highlights of the festivities included 'Arindam', an art exhibition on Ramayan, and a performance by the winners of the Pratibha Sangam Competition 2023.

The 'Arindam' art exhibition, spanning six days, showcased around 100 artworks by over 50 renowned artists. The exhibition displayed a diverse range of traditional and contemporary styles, themes, and artistic techniques, captivating the audience with their creativity and vision.

The Pratibha Sangam Competition is an annual competition organized by ICCR exclusively for foreign participants and persons of Indian origin (PIOs). It recognizes individuals dedicated to promoting Indian classical dance and music traditions in their respective countries. Representing seven nations - Russia, Sri Lanka, Japan, the UK, Malaysia, Netherlands and the USA - the winners showcased various Indian classical dance forms such as Kathak, Odissi, and Bharatnatyam. Furthermore, ICCR's foreign students studying in New Delhi also delivered mesmerizing performances of Indian classical dances, adding to the cultural richness of the occasion.



The landmark event was not only graced by the talented winners of the competition but also by the esteemed Heads of Missions representing their respective nations in New Delhi. Their participation added a new dimension to the festivities, highlighting a shared commitment to promoting cross-cultural understanding and global cooperation.

The Director General of ICCR, in his address, underscored that the celebration of ICCR's illustrious 75-year long journey is a testament to the power of cultural exchange in bridging nations and hearts. He emphasized ICCR's steadfast commitment to promoting of the spirit of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' (the world is one family) and collaboration across borders to promote peace and harmony through the universal language of culture.

